# Position Statement on the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Production

# At its Cabinet meeting on 20th December 2022, Oxfordshire County Council adopted a new Minerals and Waste Development Scheme. That scheme sets out the way in which the local plan will be produced and the timetable for its production.

# Prior to the decision Oxfordshire was pursuing a partial update of the adopted Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 1 – Core Strategy, and the production of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 2 – Site Allocations Document. This would have required two local plan processes, and two Examinations in Public. The decision to instead pursue a Minerals and Waste Local Plan, combining parts 1 and 2 into a new Minerals and Waste Local Plan will enable this to be carried out more efficiently, and require only a single examination in public.

The Status of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 1 (Core Strategy) and the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 2 (Site Allocations Document)

The Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 1 (Core Strategy) remains in place as part of the Development Plan until it is replaced by the new minerals and Waste Local Plan.   
  
The Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 2 (Site Allocations Document) will cease its progress through the plan making process and will consequently be given no weight in planning decisions. It had not reached the stage of being submitted to the Secretary of State for inspection and so does not therefore require a formal withdrawal as set out in regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.   
  
A new call for sites will be carried out and they will be assessed against the new plan’s methodology that will have first been consulted upon.

The Plan Period

The current Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 1 looks ahead to 2031, which was 15 years from the time it was submitted for inspection. Paragraphs 21 and 22 of the National Planning Policy Framework published in March 2012 and last updated in 2021 (NPPF) requires that local plans specify which policies are strategic policies, and that those strategic policies look at least 15 years ahead. The new local plan will therefore have a plan period of at least15 years.  
  
Please note that even if the County Council were not combining the local plan, the partial updated to the core strategy would still require the strategic policies to look at least 15 years ahead.